

THE Famous History OF FRYER BACON.

Containing the wonderfull things that he did in his
Live, and the manner of his death ; with the Lives and
Deaths of the two Conjurers, *Bungy* and *Vandermaest*.

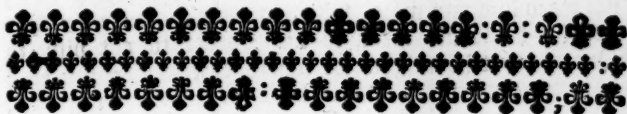
Very pleasant and delightful to be read.

Wijdschap doet het leven verlaughen.



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T H E
Famous History
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Of the Parents and Birth of Fryer *Bacon*, and how
he addicted himself to Learning.

HE was born, by most mens opinions, in
the west part of England, and was son
to a wealthy Farmer, who put him to
School to the Parson of the Town
where he was born; not with intent
that he should turn Fryer (as he did) but
to get so much understanding, that he might manage the
better that wealth he was to leave him. But young
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Bacon took his learning so fast, that the Priest could not teach him any more, which made him desire his Master that he would speak to his Father to put him to Oxford, that he might not lose that little learning that he had gained: his Master was very willing so to do, and one day meeting his Father, told him, that he had received a great blessing of God, in that he had given him so wise and hopefull a Childe, as his Son Roger Bacon was (for so was he named) and wished him with all to do his duty, and so to bring up his Childe, that he might shew his thankfulness to God, which could not better be done than in making of him a Scholar, for he found by his sodain taking of his learning, that he was a Childe likely to prove a very great Clerk: hereat old Bacon was not well pleased (for he desired to bring him up to Plough and to the Cart, as he himself was brought) yet he for reverence sake to the Priest, shewed not his anger, but kindly thanked him for his pains and Counsell, yet desiring him not to speak any more concerning that matter; for he knew best what best pleased himself, and that he would not do: so brake they off their talk, and parted.

So soon as the old man came home, he called to his Son for his Books, which when he had, he locked them up, and gave the Boy a Cart-whip in the place of them, saying to him, Boy, I will have you no Priest, you shall not be better learned than I: you can tell now by the Almanack when it is best sowing Wheat, when Barley, Pease, and Beans; and when the best Libbing is, when to sell Grain and Cattel, I will teach thee: for I have all Faies and Markets as perfect in my memory, as Sir John our Priest has masse without Book: take me this whip, I will teach thee the use of it, it will be more profitable to thee than this harsh Latine: make no reply but follow my counsell, or else by the Gods thou shalt feel the smart hand of my anger. Young Bacon thought this but hard dealing, yet would he not reply, but within six or eight dayes

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dayes he gave his Father the slip, and went to a Cleyster some twenty miles off, where he was entertained, and so continued his learning, and in small time came to be so famous, that he was sent for to the Univerſity of Oxford, where he long time ſtudied, and grew ſo excellent in the ſecrets of Art and Nature, that not England only, but all Chriſtendome admired him.

How the King ſent for Fryer Bacon, and of the wonderfull things he ſhewed the King and Queen.

THe King being in Oxfordſhire at a Noblemans houſe was very deſirous to ſee this famous Fryer, for he had heard many times of the wondrous things that he had done by his Art: therefore he ſent one for him to deſire him to come to the Court. Fryer Bacon kindly thanked the King by the Meſſenger, and ſaid, that he was at the Kings ſervice, and would ſodainly attend him: but Sir, ſaith he (to the Gentleman) I pray make you haſte, or elſe I ſhall be two hours before you at the Court. For all your learning (answered the Gentleman) I can hardly believe this, for Schollars, old men and travellers, may lye by authority. To ſtrengthen your belief (ſaid Fryer Bacon) I could preſently ſhew you the laſt Mench that you lay withall, but I will not at this time. One is as true as the other (ſaid the Gentleman) and I would laugh to ſee either. You ſhall ſee them both within theſe four hours, quoth the Fryer, and therefore make what haſte you can. I will prevent that by my ſpeed (ſaid the Gentleman) and with that rid his way; but he rode out of his way, as it ſhould ſeem; for he had but five miles to ride, and yet he was better than three hours a riding them, ſo that Fryer Bacon by his Art was with the King before he came.

The King kindly welcomed him, and ſaid that he
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long time had desired to see him: for he had as yet not heard of his life. Fryer Bacon answered him, that same had belyed him, and giben him that report that his pooz studies had neber deserbed, for he believed that Art had many Sones moze excellent than himself was. The King commended him for his modestie, and told him, that nothing did become a wise man lesser than boasting: But yet withall he requested him now to be no niggard of his knowledge, but to shew his Queen and him some of his skill. I were woorthy of neither Art nor knowledge (quoth Fryer Bacon) should I deny your Majesty this small request: I pray seat your selbes and you shall see presently what my pooz skill can performe: the King, Queen, and Nobles sate them all down. They habing so done, the Fryer toobed his wand, and presently was heard such excellent musick that they were all amazed, for they all said they had neber heard the like. This is, said the Fryer, to delight the sense of hearing. I will delight all your other senses ere you depart hence, so waving his wand again, there was loudor musick heard, and presently fife dancers entred, the first like a Court-Laundress, the second like a Footman, the third like a Usurer, the fourth like a Prodigall, the fift like a Fool: these did dibers excellent changes, so that they gabe content to all the beholders, and habing done their Dance, they all banished away in their order as they came in. Thus feasted he two of their senses. Then toobed he his wand again, and there was another kinde of musick heard, and whilst it was a playing there was sodainly before them a table richly cohered with all sorts of delicates: then desired he the King and Queen to taste of some certain rare fruits that were on the Table, which they and the Nobles there present did, and were very highly pleased with the taste: they being satisfied, all banished away on the sodain: then toobed he his wand again, and sodainly there was such a smell, as if all the rich perfumes in the whole world had been there prepared in the best manner that Art could

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could set them out: whilst he feasted thus their smelling, he washed his wand again, and there came diuers Nations in sundry habits (as Russians, Polanders, Indians, Armenians) all bringing sundry kinds of Furses, such as their Countries yeelded: all which they presented to the King and Queen: these Furses were so soft in the touch that they highly pleased all those that handled them; then after some odde fantastick Dances (after their Countrey manner) they banished away: then asked Fryer Bacon the Kings Majestie, if that he desired any more of his skill? The King answered that he was fully satisfied for that time, and that he only now thought of something that he might bestow on him, that might partly satisfie the kindness that he had received. Fryer Bacon said, that he desired nothing so much as his Majesties love, and if that he might be assured of that, he would think himself happy in it: for that (said the King) be thou ever sure of, in token of which receive this Jewell, and withall gave him a costly Jewell from his neck. The Fryer did with great reverence thank his Majesty, and said: as your Majesties bassall you shall ever finde me ready to do you service, your time of need shall find it both beneficial and delightfull. But amongst all these Gentlemen I see not the man that your Grace did send for me by, sure he hath lost his way, or else met with some sport that detains him so long. I promised to be here before him, and all this noble assembly can witness I am as good as my word: I hear him coming: with that entred the Gentleman all be dirted, (for he had rid through ditches, quagmires, plashes, and waters that he was in a most pitifull case) he seeing the Fryer there, looked full angrily, and bid a pox on all his Devils for they had led him out of his way, and almost drowned him. Be not angry Sir (said Fryer Bacon) here is an old friend of yours that hath more cause: for wee hath tarried these three hours for you (with that he pulled up the Hangings, and behind them stood a

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kitchin-Wayd with a basting-ladle in her hand :) now am I as good as my word with you: for I promised you to helpe you to your sweet-heart, how do you like this? So ill, answered the Gentleman, that I will be reben-ged of you. Threaten not (said Fryer Bacon) lest I do you more shame, and do you take heed how you gibe Scholars the lye again: but because I know not how well you are storied with money at this time, I will bear your Wenches charges home: with that she banished away: The King, Queen, and all the company laughed to see with what shame this Gentleman indured the sight of his greasie sweet-heart: but the Gentleman went away discontented. This done, Fryer Bacon took his leave of the King and Queen, and received from them divers gifts (as well as thanks) for his Art he shewed them.

How Fryer Bacon deceived his Man, that would fast for his conscience sake.

Fryer Bacon had one only man to attend on him, and he too was none of the wisest, for he kept him in Charity, more than for any service he had of him. This man of his (named Miles,) never could indure to fast as other Religious persons did, for alwayes he had in one corner, or another, flesh, which he would eat when his Master eat bread only, or else did fast and abstaine from all things. Fryer Bacon seeing this, thought at one time or other to be even with him, which he did one Fryday in this manner: Miles on the Thursday night had provided a great black-pudding for his Frydayes fast: This Pudding put he in his pocket (thinking belike to heat it so, for his Master had no fire on those dayes :) on the next day, who was to demure as Miles: he looked as though he would not have eate any thing: when his Master

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Master offered him some bread, he refused it, saying, his sins deserved a greater penance than one dayes fast in a whole weeke: his Master commended him for it, and bid him take heed that he did not dissemble, for if he did it would at last be known: Then were I worse then a Turk, said Miles: so went he forth as if he would have gone to pray privately, but it was for nothing but to peep privately upon his black pudding: that pulled he out, for it was half roasted with the heat of his bum, and fell to it lustily; but he was deceived, for having put one end in his mouth, he could neither get it out again, nor bite it off, so that he stamped out for help: his Master hearing him, came, and finding him in that manner, took hold of the other end of the pudding, and led him to the Hall, and shewed him to all the Schollars, saying, See here my good friends and fellows students, what a debout man my servant Miles is, he loved not to break a fastday, witness this pudding that his conscience will not let him swallow: I will have him to be an example for you all: then tyed he him to a window by the end of the pudding, where poore Miles stood like a Bear tyed by the nose to a stake, and indured many flouts and mocks: at night his Master released him from his penance; Miles was glad of it, and did bove never to break more Fast dayes whilst that he lived.

How Fryer Bacon saved a Gentleman that had given himself to the Devil.

In Oxfordshire there lived a Gentleman, that had through his riotous expences wasted a faire Inheritance that was left him by his Father: After which he grew so poore, that he had not wherewith to buy himself so much bread, as would maintaine his miserable life: the memory of his former state that he had lived

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in, and the present want that he now sustained, made him to grow desperate and regardless both of his soule and bodys estate: which gave the Debill occasion to worke upon his weaknes in this manner following.

On a time, he being alone full of grief and care, (grief for his follies past, and care how to get a poore living for the remainder of his daies) the Debill came unto him and asked him what he wanted (he came not in a shape terrible, but like an old penny-father.) This Gentleman was amazed at his sodaine presence, but hearing him demand of his wants, he took to him courage and said: I want all things, I want money to buy me apparell, money to buy me meat, money to redeem my Land, and money to pay my debts: Can or will you helpe me in this misery? I will answered the Debill, on some conditions helpe you to money for to supply all those wants, and that sodainly. On any conditions, said the Gentleman, help me; and I sweare to perforce them: I take no Oaths (answered the Debill) I must have Bonds; if you will do so, meet me by the Woods-side to morrow morning, and there I will have the money ready. I will, said the Gentleman (for he poore man was glad of it on any conditions, as he said before.) The next day he went to the Wood, where the Debill had promised to meet him: long had he not been there, but he beheld the Debill comming, and after him two other like Servingmen, with Bagges of money: this rejoyced the poore Gentlemans heart to think that he should once againe live like a man. The Debill comming to him said: Son, I will perforce my promise unto you if that you will seal to the conditions that I have hear already draven: willingly said the Gentleman; I will, I pray read them. The Debill read them to this effect: that he lent him so much money as he should have need of; to be employed to these uses following: First, to redeem his mortgaged Land: next to pay his debts: lastly, to buy him such necessaries, as he wanted:

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wanted; to be lent on this condition, That so soon as he had paid all his debts that he should be at the Lenders disposing, and without any delay freely to peel himself to him upon the first demand of the aforesaid Lender. To this the Gentleman sealed, and had the money carried to his chamber, with which money he in short time redeemed his land, and bought such things as he needed, and likewise paid all his debts, so that there was not any man that could ask him one penny.

Thus lived this Gentleman once again in great credit, and grew so great a husband that he encreased his estate, and was richer then eber his Father befoze him was: but long did not this joy of his continue for one day he being in his Studie the Debill appeared unto him and did tell him, that now his Land was redeemed, and his debts paid, and therefore the time was come that he must peel himself to his mercy, as he was bound by Bond. This troubled the Gentleman to hear, but more to chink how he must become a slave to a stranger that he did not know, (for he knew not as yet that he was the Debill) but being urged to answer for himself, by the Debill, he said, that he had not as yet paid all his debts, and therefore as yet he was not lyable to the Bonds strait Conditions. At this the Debill seemed angry, and with a fearfull noise transformed himself to an ugly shape, saying, Alas, poor wretch, these are poor excuses that thou framest. I know them all to be false, and so will probe them to thy face to morrow morning, tell then I leave thee to despair. So with great noise he went his way, leaving the Gentleman half dead with fear.

When he was gone, the Gentleman rebibing, he thought himself in what a miserable state he was now in, then wished he that he had lived and dyed poorly, then cursed he all his ambitious thoughts that led him first to desire again that wealth which he had so vainly by his riot lost; then would he curse his prodigal expences,

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that were the original of all his misery: thus was he tormented a long time in his mind, at last he fully resolved to end his tormented life by some violent death, and to that end he went forth, thinking to kill himself, which he had done, had it not been for the Fryer: for as he was falling upon his sword, Fryer Bacon came by and called to him to hold, which he did. Fryer Bacon demanded of him the cause why he was so desperate that he would run headlong to hell? O sir, said he, the cause is great, and the relation is so terrible to me, that I would intreat you not to trouble me any more, but to leaue me to my own will: this answer filled the Fryer with amazement and pity both at once, which made him to urge him in this manner: Sir, should I leaue you to this wilfull damnation, I were unfit euer hereafter to wear or touch any robe that belongeth to the holy Order, wherof I am a Brother: you know (doubt not) that there is giben power to the Church to absolue penitent sinners, let not your wilfulness take away from you that benefit which you may receive by it; freely confess yourself (I pray you) unto me, and doubt not but I shall gibe your troubled conscience ease; Father (said this Gentleman) I know all that you have spoken is truth, and I have many times received comfort from the Father Church, (I dare not say Dur, for I feare me, he will never receive me for a Child) I have no part in her benediction; yet since you request so earnestly the cause, I will tell you, hear it and tremble, know then that I have giben my self to the Deuill for a little wealth, and he to morrow in this Wood must haue me; now haue you my grief, but I know not how to get comfort.

This is strange (quoth Fryer Bacon) yet he of good comfort, penitential tears may do much, which see you do not spare; soon I will visit you at your house, and gibe you that comfort (I hope) that will beget you again to goodness: the Gentleman with these words was somewhat comforted, and returned home. At night Fryer

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of Fryer Bacon.

Bacon came to him, and found him full of teares for his hapnous offences, for these teares he gave him hope of pardon, demanding further what conditions he had made with the Debil; the Gentleman told him, how that he had promised himself to him as soon as he had payd all his debts: which now he had done, for he owed not one penny to any man living. Well, said Fryer Bacon, continue thy forrow for thy sinnes, and to morrow meet him without feare, and be thou content to stand to the next mans judgement that shall come that way, whether thou dost belong to the Debill or no: fear not, but do so, and be thou assured that I will be hee that shall come by, and will give such judgement on thy side, that thou shalt be free from him; with that Fryer Bacon went home, and the Gentleman went to his prayers.

In the morning the Gentleman (after that he had blessed himself) went to the Wood where he found the Debill ready for him; so soon as he came near, the Debill said, Now Deceiber are you come, now shalt thou see that I can and will prove that thou hast paid all thy debts, and therefore thy soul belongeth to me. Thou art a Deceiber (said the Gentleman) and gavest me money to cheat me of my soul, for else why wilt thou be thy own judge: let me have some other to judge between us: Content, (said the Debill, take whom thou wilt: then I will have said the Gentleman) the next man that cometh this way; hereto the Debill agreed. No sooner were these words ended, but Fryer Bacon came by, to whom the Gentleman spake, and requested that he would be judge to a weighty matter between them two; the Fryer said he was content, so both parties were agreed; the Debill said they were, and told Fryer Bacon how the case stood between them in this manner.

Know Fryer, that I seeing this Prodigal like to starve for want of food lent him money, not only to buy him victuals, but also to redeem his lands and pay his debts, conditionally that so soon as his debts were paid, that he

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he would give himself freely to me ; to this here is his hand (showing him the Deed, now my time is expired, for all his debts are paid, which he cannot deny. This case is plain, if it be so that his debts are paid : his silence confirms it, said the Debitor, therefore give him a just sentence. I will (said Fryer Bacon.) But first tell me (speaking to the Gentleman,) didst thou never yet give the Debitor any of his money back, nor requite him any waies : never had he any thing of me as yet (answered the Gentleman) then never let him have any thing of thee and thou art free : Deceitful of mankind, said he (speaking to the Debitor) it was thy bargain, never to meddle with him so long as he was indebted to any ; now how canst thou demand of him any thing when he is indebted for all that he hath to thee, when he payeth thee thy money, then take him as thy due ; till then thou hast nothing to do with him : and so I charge thee to be gone. At this the Debitor banished with great horrour : but Fryer Bacon comforted the Gentleman, and sent him home with a quiet conscience, bidding him never to pay the Debtors money back as he tended his own safety : which he promised for to observe.

How Fryer Bacon made a Brazen head to speak, by the which
he would have walled *England* about with Brass.

Fryer Bacon reading one day of the many conquests of England, bethought himself how he might keep it hereafter from the like conquests, and so make himself famous hereafter to all posterities. This (after great study) he found could be no way so well done as one, which was to make a head of Brass, and if he could make this head to speak (and herein when it speaks) then might he be able to wall *England* about with Brass. To this purpose he got one Fryer Bongoy to assist him, who was a great Scholar and a Magician, (but

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(but not to compare to Fryer Bacon :) these two with great studie and paines so framed a head of Wzaas that in the inuward parts thereof there was all things like as in a naturall mans head: this being done, they were as far from perfection of the work as they were before, for they knew not how to giue these parts that they had made, motion, without which it was impossible that it should speak; Many books they read, but yet could not finde any hope of what they sought, that at the last they concluded to raise a spirit, and to know of him that which they could not attain to by their own studies. To do this they prepared all things ready, and went one evening to a Wood thereby, and after many ceremonies used, they spake the words of Coniuration, which the Deuill straight obeyed and appeared unto them, asking what they would: Know, said Fryer Bacon, that we haue made an artificiall head of Wzaas, which we would haue to speak, to the furtherance of which we haue raised thee, and being raised, we will here keep thee, unless thou tell us the way and manner how to make this head to speak. The Deuill told him, that he had not that power of himself. Beginner of lies (said Fryer Bacon) I know that thou dost dissemble, and therefore tell it us quickly, or else we will here bind thee, to remain during our pleasures. At these threatnings the Deuill consented to do it, and told them, that with a continuall fume of the six hottest Simples it should haue motion, and in one moneths space speak; the time of the moneth or day he knew not, also he told them, that if they heard it not before it had done speaking, all their labors should be lost: they being satisfied, licensteth the spirit for to depart.

Then went these two learned Fryers home again, and prepared the Simples ready, and made the fume, and with continuall watching attended when the Wzaas head would speak: Thus watched they for three weeks without any rest, so that they were so weary
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and sleepis, that they could not any longer retain from rest; Then called Fryer Bacon his man Miles, and told him that it was not unknown to him what pains Fryer Bungey and himself had taken for three weeks space, only to make and to hear the brazen-head speak, which if they did not, then had they lost all their labour, and all England had a great loss thereby: therefore he intreated Miles that he would watch whilst that they sleep, and call them if the head spake. Fear not good Master (said Miles) I will not sleep, but hearken and attend upon the head, and if it chance to speak, I will call you, therefore I pray take you both your rests, and let me alone for watching this head: After Fryer Bacon had given him a great charge; the second time Fryer Bungey and he went to sleep, and left Miles alone to watch the brazen-head; Miles, to keep him from sleeping, got a Lamber and Pipe, and being merry disposed, sung this Song to a Northern tune of

Canst thou not from New-Castle.

To couple is a custom,
all things thereto agree:
Why should not I then love?
since love to all is free.

But I'll have one that's pretty,
her cheeks of Scarlet dye,
For to breed my delight,
when that I ligg her by.

Though vertue be a Dowry,
yet I'll chuse money store
If my Love prove untrue,
with that I can get more.

The fair is often unconstant,
the black is often proud,

I'll

of Fryer Bacon.

I'll chuse a lovely brown,
come Fidler scrape the crowd.

Come Fidler scrape the crowd,
for Peggie the brown is shee,
Must be my Bride, God guide,
that Peggie and I agree.

With his own musick, and such songs as these, spent
he his time, and kept himself from sleeping; at last, af-
ter some noise, the head spake these two words, Time is;
Miles hearing it to speak no more, thought his Master
would be angry if he waked him for that, and therefore
he let them both sleep, and began to mock the head in this
manner. Thou Brazen-faced head, hath my Master took
all this pains about thee, and now dost thou requite him
with two words, Time is: had he watched with a Lawyer
so long as he hath watched with thee, he would have gi-
ben him more and better words then thou hast yet; if thou
canst speak no wiser, they shall sleep till dooms day for
me: Time is, I know Time is, and that you shall hear
goodman Brazen-face.

To the tune of, Dainty come thou to me,

Time is for some to plant,
Time is for some to sow;
Time is for some to graft
The horn as some do know.

Time is for some to eat,
Time is for some to sleep.
Time is for some to laugh,
Time is for some to weep.

Time is for some to sing,
Time is for some to pray,

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Time is for some to creep,
That have drunk all the day.

Time is to cart a Bawd,
Time is to whip a Whore,
Time is to hang a Thief,
And Time is for much more.

Do you tell us Copper-nose, when Time is, I hope we
Scholars know our Times, when to drink, when to
kiss our Hostis, when to go on her score, and when to pay
it, that time comes seldome. After half an hour had passed:
the head did speak again two words, which were these,
Time was: Miles respected these words as little as he did
the former, and would not wake them, but still scoffed at the
brazon head, that it had learned no better words, and had
such a Tutor as his Master: and in scorn of it sung this
Song.

To the tune of a rich Merchant-man.

Time was when thou a Kettle
wert fil'd with better matter,
But Fryer Bacon did thee spoyle,
when he thy sides did batter.

Time was when conscience dwelled
with men of occupation:
Time was when Lawyers did not thrive
so well by mens vexation.

Time was when Kings and Beggars
of one poor stufie had being:
Time was when Office kept no knaves;
that time it was worth seeing.

Time was a bowle of water
did give the face reflection:

Time

of Fryer Bacon.

Time was when women knew no paint:
which now they call complexion.

Time was: I know that Brazen-face, without your telling, I know that Time was, and I know what things there was when Time was, and if you speak no wiser, no Master shall be waked for me. Thus Miles talked and sung till another half houre was gone, then this Brazen head spake again these wordes, Time is past: and therewith fell down, and presently followed a terrible noise, with strange flashes of fire, so that Miles was half dead with fear: At this noise the two Fryers awaked, and wondered to see the whole room so full of smoke; but that being banished they might perceibe the Brazen head broke, and lying on the ground: at this sight they grieved, and called Miles to know how this came. Miles, half dead with fear, said, that it fell down of it self, and that with the noise and fier that followed, he was almost frightened out of his wits: Fryer Bacon asked him if he did not hear it speak; (yes quoth Miles) it spake, but to no purpose, He have a Parret speak better in that time that you have been teaching this Brazen head. Out on thee Villain (said Fryer Bacon) thou hast undone us both, hadst thou but called us when it did speak, all England had been tossed about with Wars, to its glory and our eternall fames: what were the wordes it spake; very few (said Miles) and those were none of the wisest that I have heard neither: first he said, Time is. Hadst thou called us then (said Fryer Bacon) we had been made for ever: then (said Miles) halfe an hour after it spake again, and said Time was. And wouldst thou not call us then (said Rungey)? Alas (said Miles) I thought it would have told me some long Tale, and then I purposed to have called you: Then halfe an hour after he cryed Time is past, and made such a noise, that he hath waked you himselfe me thinks. At this Fryer Bacon was in such a rage, that he would

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bate beaten his man, but he was restrained by Bungey: but nevertheless for his punishment he with his Art struck him dumb for one whole Moneth space. Thus that great woock of these learned Fryers was overthrotton (to their great griefs) by this simple fellow.

How Fryer Bacon by his Art took a Town, when the King had lain before it three Moneths, without doing it any hurt.

In those times when Fryer Bacon did all his strange tricks, the King of England had a great part of France, which they held a long time, till civill warres at home in this Land made them to lose it: It did chance that the King of England (for some cause best known to himself) went into France with a great Army, where after many victories, he did besiege a strong Town, and lay before it full thize moneths, without doing to the Town any great damage, but rather received the hurt himself. This did so vex the King, that he sought to take it any way, either by policy or strength: To this intent he made Proclamation, that whosoever could deliver this Town into his hand, he should have for his pains ten thousand Crowns truly paid. This was proclaimed, but there was none found that would undertake it: at length the news did come into England of this great reward that was promised. Fryer Bacon hearing of it went into France, and being admitted to the Kings presence, he thus spake unto him: your Majesty I am sure hath not quite forgotten your poor subject Bacon, the love that you shewed to me, being last in your presence, hath beaten me for to leave my Countrey and my Studies, to do your Majesties service: I beseech your Grace, to command me so farre as my poor Art or life may do you pleasure: The King thanked him for his love, but told him, that

He

of Fryer Bacon.

he had more need of Arms than Art, and wanted brave Souldiers more than learned Schollers. Fryer Bacon answered; your Grace saith well: But let me (under correction) tell you that Art oftentimes doth those things that are impossible to Armes, to which I will make good in some few examples; I will speak one of things performed by Art and Nature, wherein shall be nothing Magicall: and first by the figuration of Art; there may be made instruments of Ravigation without men to row in them, as great Ships to brook the Sea, only with one man to steere them, and they shall saile far more swiftly than if they were full of men: also Chariots that shall move with an unspeakable force, without any living Creature to stir them. Likewise an instrument may be made to rise withall, if one sit in the midst of the Instrument and do turn an Engine, by which the wings being Artificially composed, may beat aire after the manner of a flying bird. By an Instrument of three fingers high, and three fingers broad, a man may rid himself and others from all Imprisonment: yea such an Instrument may easily be made, whereby a man may violently draw unto him a thousand men, will they, nill they, or any other thing. By art also an Instrument may be made, whereby men may walk in the bottom of the Sea or Rivers without bodily danger: this Alexander the Great used (as the Ethneck Philosopher reporteth) to the end he might behold the secret of the Seas. Some physicall figurations are farre more strange: for by that may be framed Perspectes and Looking glasses, that one thing shall appear to be many, as one man shall appear to be a whole Army, and one Son or Daugh. shall seem divers. Also perspectes may be so framed that things a far off shall seem most nigh unto us; with one of these did Julius Caesar, from the Sea coasts in France, make and observe the situation of the Castles in England. Bodies, may also be so framed that the greatest things shall appear to be the least, the highest

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highest lowest, the most secret to the most manifest, and in such like sort the contrary. Thus did Socrates perceive, that the Dragon which did destroy the City and Countrey adjoyning with his noysome breath, and contagious influence, did lurke in the dens between the Mountains: and thus may all things that are done in Cities or Armies be seen by the enemies.

Again, in such wise many bodies be found, that benemous and infectious influence may be brought whither he will: In this did Aristotle instruct Alexander, through which instruction the poison of a Basiliske, being left upon the wall of a City, the poison was conueyed into the City, to the destruction thereof. Also perspectis may be made, to deceibe the sight, as to make a man beleibe that he seeth great store of riches, when that there is not any. But it appertaines to a higher power of Figuration, that beames should be brought and assembled by diuers reflexions and reflections in any distance that we will, to burn any thing that is opposite unto it, as it is witnessed by those Perspectis or Glasses that burn before and behinde: but the greatest and chiefest of all Figurations and things figured, is to describe the heavenly bodies, according to their length and breadth in a corporall Figure, wherein they may corporally move with a dally motion. These things are worth a Kingdome to a wise man: These may suffice, my Kapall Lords, to shew what Art can do: and these with many things more as strange, I am able by Art to performe. I hen take no thought for winning this Dowry, for by my Art you shall (ere many dayes be past) haue your desire.

The King all this while heard him with admiration: but hearing him now, that he would undertake to winne the Dowry, he thrust out into these speeches: Spott learyed Bacon, do but what a haubast said, and I will giue thee what thou most desirest, either wealth or honour, choose which thou wilt, and I will be as ready to perform

of Fryer Bacon.

performe, as I have been to promise.

Your Majesties love is all that I seek (said the Fryer) let me have that and I have honour enough; for wealth, I have content, the wise should seek no more: But to the purpose, Let your Pponers raise up a Mount so high (or rather higher) then the wall, and then shall you see some probability of that which I have promised.

This Mount in two dayes was raised: then Fryer Bacon went with the King to the top of it, and did with a perspect shew to him the Town, as plainly as if he had been in it: At this the King did wonder; but Fryer Bacon told him, that he should wonder more ere next day morn; against which time he desired him to have his whole Army in readinesse, for to scale the wall upon a signal given by him from the Mount. This the King promised to do, and returned to his Tent full of joy, that he should gain this strong Town. In the morning Fryer Bacon went up to the Mount and set his Glasses, and other Instruments up: In the mean time the King ordered his Armie, and stood in a readinesse for to give the assault: When the signal was given which was the waving of a Flagg, ere nine of the clock Fryer Bacon had burnt the State-house of the Town, with other houses, only by his Mathematicall Glasses, which made the whole town in an uprore, for none did know how it came: whiles that they were quenching the same, Fryer Bacon did wave his Flagg: upon which signal given, the King set upon the Town, and took it with little or no resistance. Thus through the Art of this learned man the King got this strong Town, which he could not do with all his men without Fryer Bacons help.

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How Fryer *Bacon* overcame the German Conjuror *Vandermaſt*, and made a Spirit of his own carry him into Germany.

The King of England after he had taken in the Town, ſhewing great mercy to the Inhabitants, giving ſome of them their liſes freely, and others he ſet at liberty for their Gold: the Town he kept as his own, and ſwore the chief Cityzens to be his true Subjects. Preſently after, the King of France ſent an Ambaſſadour to the King of England, for to intreat a peace between them. This Ambaſſadour being come to the King, he feaſted him (as it is the manner of Princes to do) as with the beſt ſports as he had then, welcomed him. The Ambaſſadour ſeeing the King of England ſo free in his Love, deſired likewiſe to give him ſome taſte of his goodliking, and to that intent ſent for one of his followers (being a German, and named Vandermaſt) a famous Conjuror, who being come he told the King that ſince his Grace had been ſo bountifull in his love to him, he would ſhew him (by a ſervant of his) ſuch wonderfull things as his Grace had never ſeen the like before. The King demanded of him of what nature thoſe things were that he would do? the Ambaſſadour answered that they were things done by the Art of Magick, the King hearing of this, ſent ſtraight for Fryer Bacon, who preſently came, and brought Fryer Bungey with him.

When the Banquet was done, Vandermaſt did aſke the King, if he deſired to ſee the Spirit of any man deceaſed: and if he did, he would raiſe him in ſuch manner and faſhion as he was in when that he liſed. The King told him, that ab ove all men he deſired to ſee Pompey the Great, who would abide no equall. Vandermaſt by his Art raiſed him, armed in ſuch manner as he
was

of Fryer Bacon.

was when he was slain at the battle of Pharsalia: At this they were all highly contented. Fryer Bacon presently raised the ghost of Julius Cæsar, who would abide no Superiour, and had slain this Pompey at the battle of Pharsalia: At the sight of him they were all amazed but the King, who sent for Bacon; And Vandermaelt said there was some man of Art in that presence, whom he desired to see. Fryer Bacon then shewed himself, saying; It was I Vandermaelt that raised Cæsar, partly to give content to the royall presence, but chiefly for to conquer the Pompey, as he did once before, at that great Battle of Pharsalia, which he now again shall do. Then presently began a fight between Cæsar and Pompey, which continued a good space to the content of all, except Vandermaelt: At last Pompey was overcome and slain by Cæsar: then banished they both away.

My Lord Ambassadour (said the King) me thinks that my Englishman hath put down your German: hath he no better cunning than this? Yes, answered Vandermaelt, Your Grace shall see me put down your Englishman, ere that you go from hence: and therefore Fryer prepare thy self with the best of thy Art to withstand me. Alas, said Fryer Bacon, it is a little thing will serbe to resist thee in this kind. I have here one that is my inferiour (shewing him Fryer Bungey) try the Art with him: and if thou do put him to the worst then will I deal with thee and not till then.

Fryer Bungey then began to shew his Art: and after some turning and looking on his Book, he brought up among them the Hesperian Tree, which did bear golden Apples: These Apples were kept by a waking Dragon that lay under the Tree: He having done this, bid Vandermaelt finde out one that durst gather the fruit. Then Vandermaelt did raise up the ghost of Hercules in his habit that he wore when that he was libing, and with his Club on his shoulder; Here is one, said Vandermaelt, that

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shall gather fruit from this Tree : this is Hercules, that in his life time gathered of this fruit and made the Dragon couch : and now again shall he gather in spite of all opposition. As Hercules was going to pluck the fruit, Fryer Bacon held up his wand, at which Hercules stayed and seemed fearfull. Vandermaest bid him for to gather of the fruit, or else he would torment him. Hercules was more fearfull, and said, I cannot, nor dare not : for great Bacon stands, whose charms are far more powerfull then thine, I must obey him, Vandermaest. Hereat Vandermaest curst Hercules, and threatned him : But Fryer Bacon laughed and bid him not to chafe himself ere that his journey was ended : for seeing (saith he) that Hercules will do nothing at your command, I will have him to do you some service at wine, with that he bid Hercules carry him home into Germany. The Devill obeyed him and took Vandermaest on his back and went away with him in all their fights. Hold Fryer, cryed the Ambassadour, I will not lose Vandermaest for half my land. Content your self, my Lord, answered Fryer Bacon, I have but sent him home to see his wife, and ere long he may return. The King of England thanked Fryer Bacon and forced some gifts on him for his service that he had done for him: For Fryer Bacon did so little respect money, that he never would take any thing of the King.

Now Fryer Bacon through his wisdom saved the endangered lives of three Brethren.

The Peace being concluded between the King of England and the King of France : the King of England came again into his Countrey of England, where he was received very joyfully of all his subjects : But in his absence had happened a discord between three Brethren, the like hath not been often heard. Thus it was :

of Fryer Bacon.

A rich Gentleman of England dyed, and left behind him three Sons: Now for some reason (which was best known to himself) he appointed none of them by name to be his heir, but spake to them after this manner: You are all my sons, and I love you all as a Father should do, all alike, not one better then the other: and because I would alwayes do rightly so near as I can, I leaue all my Lands and goods to him that lobes me best. These were the last words that he spake, concerning any worldly affaires.

After he was dead and buried, there arose a great controberisie betwixt them who should inherit their Fathers goods and Lands, every one pleading for himself, how that he lobed his Father best. All the cunning Lawyers of the Kingdom, could say nothing to the purpose, concerning this case, so that they were enforced to beg of the King a grant for a combate, for they would not share the Lands and goods amongst them, but every one desired all or else nothing. The King seeing no other way to end this controberisie, granted a combate, the two elder being to fight first, and the Conquerour to fight with the youngest, and the surbiber of them was to have the Land.

The day being come that was set for those Combatants, they all came in Armed for the fight. Fryer Bacon being there, present, and seeing such three lustie young men like to perish, and that by their own flesh and blood, grieved very much, and went to the King, desiring his Majesty that he would stay the fight, and he would find a means without any blood-shed to end the matter: the King was very glad hereof, and caused the Combatants to be brought before him, to whom he said: Gentlemen, to save the blood of you all, I have found away, and yet the controberisie shall be ended that is now amongst you. Are you contented to stand to his Judgement that I shall appoint? They all answered,

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that they were. Then they were bid to return three dayes after. In that time Fryer Bacon had caused the body of their deceased Father to be taken out of the ground, and brought to the Court: the body he did cause to be bound to a Stake, naked from the middle upwards, and likewise prepared three Bowes and Shafts for the three brethren: all these kept he secretly.

The third day being come, came these three brethren, to whom Fryer Bacon in the presence of the King, gave the three Bowes and Shafts, saying We not offended at what I have done, there is no other way but this to judge your cause. See here is the body of your dead Father, shoot at him, for he that commeth nearest to his heart, shall have all the Lands and goods.

The two elder prepared themselves, and shot at him, and stuck their Arrows in his breast. Then bid they the youngest to shoot: but he refused it, saying, I will rather lose all than wound that body that I so loved living: Had you ever had but halfe that love (in you) to him that I have, you would rather have had your own bodys mangled, than to suffer his lifeless corpes thus to be used: nay, you do not only suffer it, but you are the Actors of this act of shame: and speaking this, he wept.

Fryer Bacon seeing this, did give the Judgement on his side, for he loved his Father best, and therefore had all his Lands and goods: The other two Brethren went away with shame for what they had done. This deed of Fryer Bacon was highly commended of all men: for he did not only give true Judgement, but also saved much blood that would have been shed, had they been suffered to have fought.

of Fryer Bacon.

How Fryer Bacon served the Theeves that robbed him, and of the sport that his man Miles had with them.

IT was reported about the Countrey, how that the King had given Fryer Bacon great store of Treasure. The report of this wealth made three theebes plot to rob Fryer Bacons house, which they put in practise one evening in this fashion. They knockt at the dooz, and were let in by Miles: So sooner were they in, but they took hold of him, and led him into the house, and finding Fryer Bacon there, they told him that they came for some money, which they must and would have ere they departed from thence. He told them, that he was but ill stored with money at that time, and therefore desired them to forbear him till some other time: they answered him again, that they knew that he had enough, and therefore it was but folly to delay them but straight let them have it by fair means, or else they would use that extremity to him that he would be loath to suffer. He seeing them so resolute, told them that they should have all that he had, and gave them one hundred pounds a man. Herewith they seemed content, and would have gone their wayes. Nay, said, Fryer Bacon, I pray Gentlemen at my request tarry a little, and here some of my mans Quicksick: you are hired reasonable well already, I hope in curettie you will not deny me so small a request: that will we not (said they all.)

Miles thought now to have some sport with them, which he had, and therefore played lustily upon his Taber and Pipe: so soon as they heard him play (against their wills) they fell a dancing and that after such a laborious manner, that they quickly wearied themselves (for they had all that while the bagges of money in their hand.) Per
had.

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had Fryer Bacon not rebenge enough of them, but bid his man Miles lead them some larger measure as he thought fitting, which Miles did. Miles fraight led them out of the house into the fields, they followed him dancing after a wild Antick manner: Then he lead them ober a broad Rike full of water, and they followed him still, but not so good a way as he went (for he went ober the Bridge, but they by reason of their dancing could not keep the Bridge, but fell off, and dancing through the Water:) then led he them through a way where a Horse might very well have been up to the belly: they followed him, and were so dirty as though they had wallowed in the mire like Swine: Sometime he gave them rest only to laugh at them. Then were they so sleepe, when he did not play, that they fell to the ground. Then on the suddain would he play again, and make them start up and follow him. Thus he kept them the better part of the night. At last he in pittie left playing, and let them rest. They being asleepe on the bare ground, he took their money from them, and gave them this song for a farewell; ~~The~~ tune of,

Oh do me no harm good man.

You roaring Boyes, and Rurdy Theeves,
your Pimpes, and Apple-squires:
Lament the case of these poor knaves:
and warm them by your fires.

They snorting lie like hogs in stie,
but hardly are so warm:
If all that cheat such hap should meet,
to true men 'twere no harm.

They money had, which made them glad,
there joy did not endure:
Were all Theeves serv'd as these have been,
I think there would be fewer.

When

of Fryer Bacon.

When that they awake, their hearts will ake,
to thinke upon their loss :
And though the Gallowes they escape,
they go by weeping crosse.

Your Truls expect your coming home
with full and heavy purse,
When that they see tis nothing so,
oh how they'l rail and curse !

For he that loves to keep a whore,
must have a giving hand,
Which makes a many knaves be choakt,
for bidding true men stand.

They were scarce any thing the better for this Song,
for they slept all the while. So Miles left them at their rest,
but they had small cause to sleep so soundly as they did, for
they were moze wet than ere were Scold with ducking.
Miles gave his Master his money again, and told the story
of their merry pilgrimage : he laughed at it, and wisht all
men had the like power to serbe all such knaves in the like
kinde. The thieves waking in the morning and missing
their money, and seeing themselves in that plight, thought
that they had been serbed by some Diuine power, for rob-
bing a Church-man, and therefore they swore one to the o-
ther, neber to meddle with any Church-man again.

How *Vandermaſt*, for the disgrace that he had received by
Fryer Bacon, sent a Souldier to kill him ; and how Fryer
Bacon escaped killing, and turned the Souldier from an
Atheist to be a good Christian.

Fryer Bacon sitting one day in his Study, looked o-
uer all the dangers that were to happen to him that
¶ Moneth,

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Moneth, there founde he, that in the second week of the moneth between Sun rising and setting, there was a great danger to fall on him, which would without great care of prevention, take away his life. This danger which he did so fore-see, was caused by the German Conjuror Vandermaest, for he vowed a revenge for the disgrace that he had received. To excuse the same, he hired a Walloon Soldier, and gave him an hundred Crotones to do the same, fifty before-hand, and fifty when he had killed him.

Fryer Bacon to save himself from this danger that was like to happen to him, would alwayes when that he read, hold a Ball of Brasse in his hand, and under that ball would he set a Basen of Brasse, that if he did chance to sleep in his reading, the fall of the Ball out of his hand into the Basen, might wake him. Being one day in his Study in this manner a sleep, the Walloon Souldier was got in to him, and had drawn his sword to kill him: but as he was ready to strike, down fell the Ball out of Fryer Bacons hand, and waked him.

He seeing the Souldier stand there with a sword drawn, asked him what he was? and wherefore he came there in that manner; The Souldier boldly answered him thus, I am a Walloon, and a Souldier, and more than this, a villain: I am come hither, because I was sent, I was sent, because I was hired, I was hired, because I durst do it, the thing I should do, is not done, the thing to be done, is to kill thee: thus have you heard what I am, & why I came.

Fryer Bacon wondered at this mans resolution: then asked he him who set him on work to be a Murderer: He boldly told him Vandermaest the German Conjuror. Fryer Bacon then asked him, what Religion he was of; He answered, Of that which many do profess, the chief principles of which were these, To go to an Ale-house, and to a Church with one devotion: To abstain from evil for want of Action, and to do good against their wills: It is a good profession for a Devill (said Fryer Bacon.) Dost thou believe Hell: I believe no such thing, answered the Souldier.

Vice of Fryer Bacon.

dier. Then will I shew the contrary, said the Fryer: and presently raised the Ghost of Julian the Apostata who came by with his body burning, and so full of wounds, that it almost did affright the Souldier out of his wits. Then Bacon did command his Spirit to speak, and to shew what he was, and wherefore he was thus tormented: Then spake he to them in this manner: I sometimes was a Roman Emperour. Some Count greatness an happiness: I had an happiness beyond my Empire, had I kept that, I had been an happy man: would I had lost my Empire when I lost that. I was a Christian, that was my happiness, but my selfe-love and pride, made me to fall from it: for which I now am punished with never ceasing torments, which I must still endure: the life which I enjoy is now prepared for unbelieving wretches like my self: so banished be away.

All this while the Souldier stood quaking, and sweat as he had felt the torments himself: and falling down on his knees desired Fryer Bacon to instruct him in a better course of life, than he had yet gone in. Fryer Bacon told him that he should not want his help in any thing, which he performed, instructing him better: Then gave he him money, and sent him to the wars of the Holy Land, where he was slain.

How Fryer Bacon deceived an old Usurer.

Not far from Fryer Bacon, dwelt an old Man that had great store of Money which he let out to use, and would never do any good with it to the poor. Though Fryer Bacon had often put him in minde of it, and wished him to do some good whilste he lived. Fryer Bacon seeing this, by his Art made an Iron pot, which seemed full of gold; this being done he went to this rich

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Usurer and told him that he had some gold which he had gathered in his time that he had libed, but it being much in quantity, he feared that if it were known, it would be taken from him because it was unfitting a man of his Coat should have so much: Now he desired him that he would let him have some hundred pounds, which was not the first part of his gold, and he should keep it for him. The Usurer was glad to hear of this, and told him that he should have it, and that he would keep his gold as safe as he himself would: Fryer Bacon was glad to hear of this, and presently fetcht the pot: at the sight of which the Usurer laughed and thought to himself, how all that gold was his own, for he had a determination to gull the Fryer; but he gulled himself. See here is the gold (said Fryer Bacon) now let me have of you one hundred pounds, and keep you this gold till I pay it back again: Very willing said the Usurer) and told him one hundred pounds out, which Fryer Bacon took; and delivered him the pot and he went his way. This money did Fryer Bacon give to divers poor Scollers, and other people, and bid them pray for old Good-gatherers soules health (so was the Usurer called) which these poor people did, and would give him thanks and prayers when they met him, which he did wonder at: for he never deserved the prayers of any man. At last this old Good-gatherer went to look on his pot of gold, but instead of gold he found nothing but earth, at which sight he would have died had not his other gold hindered him, which he was to leave behind him: so gathering up his spirits, he went to Fryer Bacon and told him he was abused and cheated, for which he would have the Law of him, unless he made him restitution. Fryer Bacon told him that he had not cheated him, but been his faithfull Steward to the poor, which he could not chuse but know, either by their prayers or their thanks: and as for the Law he feared it not, but bid him do his worst. The old man seeing Fryer Bacons resolution went his way, and said, that hereafter he would be his own Steward.

How

of Fryer Bacon.

How *Miles*, Fryer *Bacons* man, did Conjure for
meat, and got meat for himself and his Host.

Miles chanced one day upon some business, to go some
six miles from home, and being loath to part with
some company that he had, he was belated and could get
but half way home that night: to save his purse he went
to ones house that was his Masters acquaintance: but
when he came, the good man of the house was not at home
and the woman would not let him have lodging. Miles see-
ing such cold entertainment, wished that he had not trou-
bled her, but being now there, he was loath to go any far-
ther, and therefore with words he perswaded her for
to give him lodging that night. She told him that she would
willingly do it, if her husband were at home, but he being
now out of Town, it would be to her discredit to lodge
any man. You need not mistrust me (said Miles) for I
have no thought to attempt your chastity: lock me in a-
ny place where there is a bed, and I will not trouble you
till to morrow that I rise. She thinking her husband
would be angry if she should deny any of his friends so
small a request, consented that he should lye there, if that he
would be locked up: Miles was contented, and presently
went to bed, and she locked him into the Chamber where he
lay.

Long had not he been a bed, but he heard the doore
open, with that he rose, and peeped through a chink of the
partition, and saw an old man come in. This man set
down his basket that he had on his arme, and gave the
woman of the house three or four sweet kisses, which
made Miles his mouth runn with water to see it: Then
did he undo his basket, and pulled out of it a fat Capon
ready roasted and bread; with a bottle of good old Sack;
this gave he unto her, saying, Sweet-heart, hearing
thy husband was out of Town, I thought good to visit
thee, I am not come empty handed, but have brought

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something to be merry withall: lay the cloath sweet Ho-
 ney, and let us first to Banquet, and then to bed. She kind-
 ly thanked him, and presently did as he bad her: they
 were not scarce at the Table, but her husband retur-
 ning back knockt at the dooz. The woman hearing this
 was amazed, and knew not what to do with her old Lo-
 ber: but looking on her apron-strings, she straighr found
 (as women use to do) a trick to put her self free from
 this fear: for she put her lber under the bed, the Capon
 and Bread she put under a Tub, the Bottle of wine she
 put behind the Chest, and then she did open the dooz, and
 with a dissembling kisse welcomed her husband home, as-
 king him the reason why that he returned so quickly. He
 told her that he had forgot the money that he should have
 carried with him, but on the morrow betimes he would
 be gone. Miles saw and heard all this, and having a de-
 sire to tast of the Capon and the wine, called the good
 man. He asked his wife who that was? She told him, an
 acquaintance of his, that entreated lodging there that
 night. He bid her open the dooz, which she did, and let
 Miles out. He seeing Miles there, bid him welcome, and
 had his wife set them some meat to the Table: she told
 him that there was not any ready, but prayed him to
 keep his stomach till to morrow, and then she would pro-
 vide them a good breakfast. Since it is so Miles, said the
 good man, we must rest content, and sleep out our hunger,
 Nay nay, said Miles, if that you can eat, I can finde you
 good meats: I am a Scholler and have some wit. I
 would fain see it (said the Good man) Pshaw, quoth
 Miles, and that presently: whereupon Miles pulled forth a
 Book out of his bosom, and began his Conjuratiō in this
 fashion.
 From the fearful Lake below, and midst of old
 From whence spirits come and go, out of the
 Straight way come one and all, and let me
 Fryer, Bacon, man and friend, and all that
 Comes

of Fryer Bacon.

Come there none yet, quoth Miles? Then I must use
some other Charme.

Now the Owl is flown abroad,
For I hear the croaking Toad.
And the Bat that shuns the day,
Through the dark doth make her way.
Now the ghosts of men do rise,
And with fearful hideous cries,
Seek revengement (from the good)
On their heads that spilt their blood,
Come some Spirit quick I say,
Nights the Devills Holy-day:
Where ere you be in dens or lake,
In the Ivie, Ewe, or Brake:
Quickly come and me attend,
Thar am *Bacons* man and friend.
But I will have you take no shape
Of a Bear, a Horse, or Ape:
Nor will I have you terrible,
And therefore come invisible.

Now he is come (quoth Miles) and therefore tell me
what meat you will have mine host? any thing Miles
(said the good man) what thou wilt, Why then (said
Miles) what say you to a Capon? I love it above all
meat (said the good man.) Why then a Capon you
shall have, and that a good one too. Bemo my Spirit that
I have raised to do me service, I charge thee, seek and
search about the earth, and bring me hither straight the
best of Capons ready roasted. Then stood he still a lit-
tle, as though he had attended the Comming of his
Spirit, and on the suddain said: It is well done my Be-
mo, he hath brought me (mine host) a fat Capon from
the King of Tripolis own Table, and bread with it. I
but where is it, Miles? (said the host) I see neither Spi-
rit nor Capon.. Look under the Tub (quoth Miles) and
there

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there you shall find it: He presently did, and brought (to his wives grief) the Capon and Bread out. Stay (quoth Miles) we do yet want some drink that is comfortable and good: I think (mine Host) a Bottle of Galligo Sack were not amiss. I will have it; Bemo, hast thee to Galligo, and fetch me from the Gouverneur, a Bottle of his best Sack.

The poor tooman thought that he would have betrayed her and her lover, and therefore wished that he had been hanged, when that he came first into her house. He having stood a little while, as before, said, Well done Bemo, look behind the great Chest (mine Host, he did so, and brought out the Bottle of Sack. Now (quoth he) Miles sit down and welcome, to thine own cheer: You may see wife (quoth he) what a man of Art can do, get a fat Capon and a bottle of good Wine in a quarter of an hour, and for nothing which is best of all: Come (good wife) sit down and be merry: for all this is paid for, I thank Miles.

She sate and could not eat a bit for anger, but wished that every bit they did eat might choak them: Her old Lover too that lay under the bed all this while, was ready to bespiss himself for fear, for he still looked when that Miles would discover him.

When they had eaten and drunk well, the good man desired Miles that he would let him see the Spirit that fetched them this good cheer: Miles seemed unwilling, telling him that it was against the Lawes of Art, to let an illiterate man see a Spirit, but yet for once he would let him see it: And told him withall, he must open the Door, and soundly beat the Spirit, or else he should be troubled hereafter with it. And because he should not fear it, he would put it into the shape of some one of his neighbours.

The Good-man told him, that he need not to doubt his valour, he would beat him soundly, and to that purpose he took a good Cudgell in his hand, and did stand

Of Fryer Bacon.

Stand ready for him. Miles then went to the bed side, under which the old man lay, and began to Conjure him with these words.

Bemo quickly come, appear,
Like an old man that dwels near;
Quickly rise, and in his shape,
From this house make thy escape;
Quickly rise, or else I swear,
He put thee in a worser fear.

The old man seeing no remedy, but that he must needs come forth, put a good face on it, and rose from under the bed. Behold my Spirit (quoth Miles) that brought me all that you have had. Now be as good as your word and swaddle him soundly. I protest (said the Goodman) your Devil is as like Goodman Scumpe the Loath dratour, as a Pome-water is like an Apple. Is it possible that your Spirit can take other men's shapes? He teach this to keep his own shape; which that, he did beat the old man soundly, so that Miles was fain to take him off, and put the old man out of Doore; so after some laughing, to bed they all went: but the woman could not sleep for grief, that her old Lover had had such hard usage for her sake.

How Fryer Bacon did help a young man to his Sweet heart, and which Fryer Bungey would have married to another; and of the mischief that was at the wedding.

A Dorsetshire Gentleman had long time loved a fair Maide, called Millifane; this love of his was as kindly received of her, as it was freely giben of him,

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him, so that there wanted nothing to the finishing of their ioyes, but the consent of her Father, who would not grant that she should be his wife (though formerly he had been a means to further the match) by reason there was a Knight that was a Sutor to her; and did desire that he might have her to his wife: But this Knight could never get from her the least token of good will: So surely was her love fixed upon the Gentleman.

This Knight seeing himself thus despised, went to Fryer Bungey, and told him his mind, and did promise him a good piece of Money, if he could get her for him, either by Art or Counsell.

Bungey (being a rhetorick) told him, that there was no better way in his mind, then to get her with her Father to go take the air in a Coach; and if he could do so, he would by his Art so direct the Horses, that they should come to an old Chappel, where he would attend, and there they might secretly be married.

The Knight rewarded him for his counsel, and told him, that if it took effect, he would be more countifull unto him: And presently went to her Father, and told him of this. He liked well of it, and forced the poor Maid to ride with them. So soon as they were in the Coach, the horses runn presently to the Chappel, where they found Fryer Bungey attending for them: At the sight of the Church and the Priest, the poor Maid knew that she was betrayed, so that for grief she fell in a swoond, to see which, her Father and the Knight were very much grieved, and used their skill for her recovery.

In this time, her best Beloved the Gentleman, did come to her Fathers to visit her, but finding her not there, and hearing that she was gone with her Father & the Knight, he mistrusted some foul play, and in all hast went to Fryer Bacon, and desired of him some help to recover his Love again, whom he feared was utterly lost.

of Fryer Bacon.

Fryer Bacon (knowing him for a vertuous Gentleman) pittied him: and to give his griefs some release, shewed him a Glass, wherein any one might see any thing done (within fifty miles space) that they desired: so soon as he looked in the Glass, he saw his Lobe Millisant with her Father, and the Knight, ready to be married by Fryer Bungey: At the sight of this he cryed out that he was undone, for now should he lose his life in losing of his Lobe. Fryer Bacon bids him take comfort! for he would prevent the Marriage: So soon they set, in an enchanted Chair, and suddenly they were carried through the air to the Chappel. Just as they came in, Fryer Bungey was joining their hands to marry them: But Fryer Bacon spoiled his speech, for he struck him dumb, so that he could not speak a word.

Then raised he such a great Mist in the Chappel, so that neither the Father could see his Daughter, nor the Daughter her Father, nor the Knight either of them. Then took he Millisant by the hand, and led her to the Man she most desired: They both wept for joy, that they so happily once more had met, and kindly thanked Fryer Bacon.

It greatly pleased Fryer Bacon to see the passion of these two Lovers, and seeing them both contented, he married them at the Chappel dooz, whilst her Father, the Knight, and Fryer Bungey went groping within, and could not find the way out. Now when he had married them, he bid them get lodging at the next Village, and he would send his Man with money: (for the Gentleman was not storied, and he had a great way to his house) they did as he had them.

That night he sent his Man Miles with money to them; but he kept her Father, the Knight and Fryer Bungey till the next day at noon in the Chappel, ere he released them.

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The Gentleman and his now married wife made that night a great supper for joy of their Marriage; and bid to it most of the Village: They wanted nothing but Musick, for which they made great moan. This want Fryer Bacon (though he was absent) supplied: for after supper there came such a Mask, that the like was never seen in that Village: For first, there was heard most sweet still Musick, then wind Musick, then came three Apes, and three Monkeys, each of them carrying a Logh. After them followed 50 Apes and Monkeys more, all dressed in Antick Coats; these last fell a dancing in such an odd manner, that they moved all the beholders to much laughter: so after these Antick changes, they did reverence to the Bridegroom and Bride, and so departed in order as they came in.

They all did marvel from whence these should come: But the Bridegroom knew that it was Fryer Bacons Art that gave them this grace to their wedding.

When all this was done; to Bed they went; and enjoyed their wishes. The next day he went home to his own house with his Bride, and for the cost he had bestowed on them, most part of the Totont-folk brought them on their way.

Miles made one amongst them too; he for his Masters sake was so pleyed with Cups, that he in three dayes was scarce sober: For his welcom at his departure he gave them this Song: To the tune of,

I have been a Fidler, &c. all day long
And did not you hear of a mirth that befell,
The morrow after a Wedding day,
And carrying a Bride at home to dwell,
and away to Twiver, away, away.

of Fryer Bacon.

The Quintip was set, and the Garlands were made,
his fifty old customes should ever decay:
And we be to him that was horst on a Jade,
for he carried no credit away, away.

We met a Consort of Fiddle dedees,
we set them a cockhorse, and made them to play,
The winning of Bullen, and Upsyfrees,
and away to Twiver, away, away.

There was ne're a Lad in all the Parish,
that would go to the Plough that day:
But on his fore horse his Wench he carries,
and away to Twiver, away, away.

The butler was quick, and the Ale he did tap,
the Maydens did make the Chamber full gay;
The Servingmen gave me a Fudling Cap,
and I did carry it away, away.

The Smith of the Town his Liquor so took,
that he was perswaded the ground look't blew,
And I dare boldly swear on a Book,
such Smithes as he there's but a few.

A Posset was made, and the women did sip,
and simpering said they could eat no more:
Full many a Maid was laid on the lip;
He say no more, but so give o're.

They kindly thanked Miles for his Song, and so sent
him home with a Fox at his tail. His Master asked
him, whether he had been so long: he told him, at
the wedding. I know it (said Fryer Bacon) that
thou hast been there, and I know also (thou beast) that
thou hast been every day drunk. That is the worst that

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you can say by me, Master, for still poor men must be drunk, if that they take a Cup more than ordinary; but it is not so with the rich. Why, how is it with the rich then? I will tell you (said Miles) in few words.

Lawyers they are sick,
And Fryers are ill at ease,
But poor men they are drunk
And all is one disease.

Well Sirrah (said Fryer Bacon) let me not hear that you are infected any more with this disease, lest I give you some sauce to your sweet meat. Thus did Fryer Bacon help these two Lovers, who in short time got the love of the old man, and lived in great joy: Fryer Bungey his tongue was again let loose, and all were friends.

How *Vandermaſt* and Fryer *Bungey* met, and how they arrived who should excell one another in their Conjurations, and of their deaths.

Vandermaſt thinking that Fryer Bacon had been dead, came into England, and in Kent met with Fryer Bungey; he doing him no good will for Fryer Bacons sake, took his Horse out of the Stable, and in stead of it left a Spirit like unto it. Fryer Bungey in the morning rose, and mounting this Spirit (which he thought had been his Horse) rode on his journey: But he riding through a Water, was left in the middle of it by this Spirit, and being thus wet, he returned to his Inn. At the same time Vandermaſt met him, and asked

of Fryer Bacon.

ked him, if that were Swimming time of the year? Bungey told him, If that he had been so well bozsed as he was, when Fryer Bacon sent him into Germany, he might have escaped that washing. At this Vandermaelt bit his lip, and said no more, but went in. Bungey thought that he would be even with him, which was in this manner. Vandermaelt lobed a Wench well, which was in the house, and sought many times to win her with gold, love or promises. Bungey knowing this, did shape a Spirit like the Wench, which he sent to Vandermaelt.

Vandermaelt appointed the Spirit (thinking it had been the Wench) to come to his Chamber that night, and was very joyfull that he should enjoy her now at the last: But this joy turned into sorow, and his wanton hopes into a bad nights lodging: For Fryer Bungey had by his Art spread such a sheet on his Bed, that no sooner was he laid with the Spirit on it, but it was carried through the air, and let fall into a deep Pond, where Vandermaelt had been drowned, if he had not had the Art of swimming: He got quickly out of the Pond, and shaked himself like a rough Water-Spaniel: But being cut, he was as much vexed as before, for he could not tell the way home, but was glad to keep himself in heat with walking.

Next day when he came to his Inn, Fryer Bungey asked him how he did like his Wench? He said, So well, that he wished him such another. Bungey told him that his Order did forbid him the use of any; and therefore he might keep them for his friends: Thus did they continually vex each other, both in words, and ill actions. Vandermaelt desiring to do Fryer Bungey a mischief, did challenge him the field (not to fight at Sword and Dagger, Angle Rapier, or case of Bonyards, but at worse weapons far, it was that Diabolical Art of Magick) there to shew which of them was most cunning.

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ning or had most power over the Devil: Bungey accepted of his challenge, and both provided themselves of things belonging to the Art, and to the field they went.

There they both spread their Circles some hundred foot from one another: and after some other Ceremonies did Vandermaest begin: He by his Charmes did raise up a fiery Dragon, which did runne about Fryer Bungeys Circle, and did scorch him with his heat, so that he was almost ready to melt. Fryer Bungey conjured Vandermaest, in another Element: for he raised up the Sea monster that Perseus killed when he did redeem the fair Andromeda. This Sea monster did run about Vandermaest, and such floods of water he did send out of his wide mouth, that Vandermaest was almost drowned. Then did Fryer Bungey raise a Spirit up like Saint George, who fought with the Dragon, and killed it: Vandermaest (following his example) raised up Perseus, who fought also with the Sea monster, and killed it: So were they both released from their danger.

They being not contented with this repall of their skill, went further in their Conjurations and raised up two Spirits, each of them one. Bungey charged his Spirit for to assist him with his greatest power he had, that by it he might be able to overcome Vandermaest. The Devil told him he would, if that he from his left Armé would give him but three drops of blood: But if that he did deny him that, then should Vandermaest have power over him to do what he would: the like told Vandermaests Devil to him: To this demand of the Spirits, they both agreed, thinking for to overcome each other; but the Devil overthrew them both.

They having given the Devil this blood, as is before spoken of, they both fell again to their Conjurations: first, Bungey did raise Achilles with his Greekes, who marched about Vandermaest, and threatned him. Then Vandermaest

of Fryer Bacon.

Vandermaſt raiſed Hector with his Trojans, who defended him from Achilles and the Greeks. Then began there a great battle between the Greeks and Trojans, which continued a good ſpace. At laſt Hector was ſlain, and the Trojans ſed. Then did ſollow a great tempeſt, with thundring and lightening, ſo that the two Conjurers wiſhed that they had been away. But wiſhes were in vaine, for now the time was come that the Deuill would be paid for the knowledge that he had lent them, he would tarry no longer, but then took them in the height of their wickedneſſes, and kereſt them of their liues.

When the Tempeſt was ended, (which did greatly affright the Towns thereby) the Townſ-men found the bodies of theſe two men (Vandermaſt and Burgey) breathleſſe, and ſtrangely burnt with fire. The one had Chriſtian buriall becauſe of his Order: the other, becauſe he was a ſtranger. Thus was the end of theſe two famous Conjurers.

How Miles would Conjure for Money, and
how he broke his leg for fear.

Miles one day finding his Maſters ſtudy open, ſtole out of it one of his conjuring Books; with this book would Miles needs Conjure for ſome Money: for he ſaw that his Maſter had Money enough, and he deſired the like, which did make him bold to trouble one of his Maſters Deuils. In a private place he thought it beſt to do it: Therefore he went up to the top of the houſe, and there began to read: Long had he not read, but a Deuill came to him in an ugly ſhape, and aſked him what he would haue: Miles being affrighted, could not ſpeak, but ſtood quaking there like an Aspin-leaf: the Deuill, ſeeing him ſo, (to increaſe his fear) raiſed a tempeſt,

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pen, and kindled fire about, which made Miles leap from off the Leeds, and with the fall broke his leg.

Fryer Bacon hearing this noise, ran forth, and found his man Miles on the ground, and the Devil hurling fire off the house top. First laid he the Devil again, then went he to his man, and asked him how he got this broken leg. He told him that his Devil did it: for he had frightened him, and made him leap off from the house top. What didst thou there? (said his Master.) I went to conjure, Sir, (said Miles) for money, but I have gotten nothing but a broken leg; and I now must beg for money to cure that, if you be not the more pitiful to me.

I have oftentimes given you warning not to meddle with my Books (said his Master) and yet you will still be doing: Take heed you had best, how you deal with the Devil again, for he that had power to break your leg, will break your neck, if you again do meddle with him: for this I do forgive you, for your leg breaking hath paid for your forgiveness, and though I gave you not a broken head, I will give you a plaister, and so sent him to the Chirurgeons.

How two young Gentlemen that came to Fryer Bacon to know how their Fathers did, killed one another, and how Fryer Bacon for grief did break his rare Glass, wherein he could see any thing that was done within fifty miles about him.

It is spoken of before now, that Fryer Bacon had a Glass, which was of that excellent nature, that any man might behold any thing that he desired to see, within the compass of fifty miles round about him. With this Glass he had pleased others kinds of people; for Fathers did oftentimes desire to see (thereby) how their Children did, and Children how their Pa-

rents

of Fryer Bacon.

rents did, one friend how another did; and one Enemy (sometimes) how his Enemies did; so that from farre they would come to see this wonderfull Glasse.

It happened one day that there came to him two young Gentlemen, (that were Countrey-men, and Neighbourhood Children) for to know of him by his Glasse, how their Fathers did: he being no niggard of his cunning, let them see his glasse, wherein they straight beheld their wives, which they (through their ston follies) bought at their liues losses as you shall hear.

The Fathers of these two Gentlemen, (in their sons absence) were become great foes; this hatred between them was groten to that height, that wheresoever they meet, they had not only words but blowes.

Just at that time, as it should seem, that their sons were looking to see how they were in health, they were met and had drayon, and were together by the ears.

Their Sons seeing this, (and having been altoayes great friends) knew not what to say to one another, but beheld each other with angry looks: At last one of their Fathers as they might perceibe in the Glasse, had a fall, and the other taking advantage, stood over him ready to strike him. The Son of him that was down, could then contain himself no longer, but told the other young man, that his Father had receibed wrong. He answered again, that it was fair. At last there grew such foul words between them, and their bloods were so heated, that they presently had one another with their daggers, and so fell down dead.

Fryer Bacon seeing them fall, ranne to them, but it was too late, for they were breathless ere he came. This made him to grieve exceedingly: he judging that they had receibed the cause of the death by this his Glasse, took the Glasse in his hand, and uttered words to this effect.

Wretched Bacon, by this in thy knowledge, in thy understanding togetherd, for thy Art hath been the ruine

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of these two Gentlemen: Had I been buked in those holy things, the which mine Order teares me to: I had not had that time that made this wicked Glasse: Wicked I will may call it, that is the causer of so vile an Act: would it were sensible, then should it feel my wrath, but being as it is, He, ruiner to for ruining of them: and with that he broke his rare and wonderfull Glasse, to witte like the whole world had not. In this grief of his, there came news to him of the Deaths of Vandermaet and Fryer Buggie. This did increase his grief, and made him to forgoofull, that in three dayes he would not eat any thing, but kept his Chamber.

How Fryer Bacon burnt his booke of Magick, and gave himself to the study of Divinity only, and how he turned Anchorite.

In the time that Fryer Bacon kept his Chamber, he fell into others meditations: Sometimes into the banity of Arts and Sciences; then would he condemn himself for studying of those things that were so contrary to his Order, and soules health; and would say, that Magick made a man a Devill: Sometimes would he meditate on Divinity, then would he cry out upon himself for neglecting the study of it, and for studying Magick: Sometimes would he meditate on the shortness of mans life, then would he condemn himself for spending a time so short, so ill as he had done his: So would he go from one thing to another, and in all condemn his former studies.

And that the world should know how truly he did repent his wicked life: he caused a great fire to be made, and sending for many of his Friends, Scholars, and others, he spake to them after this manner: My good Friends and fellows Students, it is not unknown unto you, how that through my Art I have attained to that cre-
dit

did, that few men living ever had : Of the wonders that I have done all England can speak, both King and Commons: I have unlocked the secrets of Art and Nature, and let the world see those things, that have lain hid ever since the death of Hermes, that rare and profound Philosopher: My studies have found the secrets of the Stars, the Books that I have made of them, do serve for Presidents to our greatest Doctors, so excellent hath my Judgement been therein.

I likewise have found out the secrets of Trees, Plants, and Stones, with their severall uses ; yet all this knowledge of mine I esteem so lightly, that I wish that I were ignorant, and knew nothing ; for the knowledge of these things (as I have truly found) serveth not so better a man in goodness, but only to make him proud, and think too well of himself. What hath all my knowledge of Natures secrets gained me ? Only this, the loss of a better knowledge, the loss of divine Studies, which makes the immortal part of man (his soul) blessed.

I have found, that my knowledge hath been a heavy burthen, and hath kept down my good thoughts : but I will remove the cause, which are these Books ; which I do purpose here before you all to burn. They all intreated him to spare 7 books because in them there were those things that after ages might receive great benefit by. He would not hearken unto them, but threw them all into the fire, and in that flame burnt the greatest learning in the world.

Then did he dispose of all his goods, some part he gave to poor Scholars, and some he gave to other poor folks, nothing left he for himself. Then caused he to be made in the Church wall a cell ; where he locked himself in, and there remained to his death. His time he spent in Prayer, Meditation, and such Divine exercises, and did seek by all means to disswade men from the studie of Magick.

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Thus lived he some two years space in that Cell, never coming forth; his meat and drink he received in at a window, and at that window he did discourse with those that came to him; his grave he digged with his own nailes, and was laid there when he dyed. Thus was the Life and Death of this famous Fryer, who lived most part of his life a Penitient, and dyed a true penitent Sinner, and an Anchozite.

P I N I S.

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